

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For collecting a specimen of a substance, a sampler,
2 comprising:

3 a sampler body;

4 a platen having first and second opposing sides, the first
5 side being removably coupleable to an end of the sampler body; and

6 a sampling medium coupleable to the second side and configured
7 to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

2 2. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
3 plunger slidably coupled to the sampler body and configured to
removably couple to the platen.

2 3. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the sampling
medium comprises a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

2 4. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
3 platen cap configured to removably couple to the sampler body
proximate the platen.

2 5. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a
3 rotatable platen coupled to the sampler body and configured to
selectably expose the sampling medium.

6. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a specimen cap coupled to the platen.

7. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a spring interposed the platen and the sampler body, the spring configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

8. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 further comprising a security cap removably coupleable to the sampler body distal the platen.

9. The sampler as recited in Claim 1 wherein the platen is configured to couple to an analytical tool.

10. The sampler as recited in Claim 9 wherein the analytical tool is selected from the group consisting of:

- a scanning electron microscope;
- an Auger electron microscope;
- a focused ion beam tool; and
- an X-ray reflection diffractometer.

11. A method of manufacturing a sampler for collecting a specimen of a substance on a surface, comprising:

coupling a sampler body to a platen having first and second opposing sides at the first side; and

coupling a sampling medium to the second side, the sampling medium configured to retain a specimen of a substance thereon.

12. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising slidably coupling a plunger to the sampler body, the plunger configured to removably couple to the platen.

13. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a sampling medium includes coupling a sampling medium comprising a foil of silver, carbon, indium, copper, or gold.

14. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a platen cap to the sampler body proximate the platen, the platen cap configured to removably cover the platen.

15. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising coupling a rotatable platen to the sampler body, the rotatable platen configured to selectably expose the sampling medium.

16. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising

2 coupling a specimen cap to the platen.

17. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising
2 interposing a spring between the platen and the sampler body, the
3 spring configured to retract the platen within the sampler body.

18. The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising
2 coupling a security cap to the sampler body distal the platen.

19. The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein coupling a
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an
3 analytical tool.

20. The method as recited in Claim 19 wherein coupling a
2 platen includes coupling a platen configured to couple to an
3 analytical tool selected from the group consisting of:

4 a scanning electron microscope;

5 an Auger electron microscope;

6 a focused ion beam tool; and

7 an X-ray reflection diffractometer.